Chapter 21: Turning Mackenzie

This chapter is told from Xavier’s point of view. In this chapter, they have successfully taken Vimy Ridge. However, Xavier, Elijah, Fat and Grey Eyes are the only remaining original privates. Within this chapter, Xavier has another moment where he finds himself wondering why Elijah is receiving all of the stardom and fame, while he receives nothing, and remains unknown. Later on into the chapter, in front of the squadron, Elijah attempts to shoot a duck swimming in a nearby creek, and misses. Xavier takes his shot and kills the duck. The squad looks at him in admiration as he walks away. Within this chapter Xavier also becomes terribly home sick. Due to Xavier feeling home sick, he plans to go visit Lisette, the French girl he was fallen in love with.

The significance of the title “Turning” towards the chapter is that it is viewed as betrayal. Elijah has never mentioned Xavier for anything that he accomplishes. Elijah has also hired a prostitute for Xavier. There is also betrayal between Lisette and Xavier. Lisette lies to Xavier, which had caused him to go from loving Lisette to hating her.

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| Quote | Significance |
| Page 245, paragraph 1, lines 1+2  It seems to me that everything these wemistikoshiw do is in threes. They are obsessed with that number. | -Explains the title of the book and highlights the theory of the number 3 motif.  -Character development Xavier showing that he is intelligent for noticing that. |
| Page 252, lines 5 and 6  “I am with another. He is upstairs”. She point with her finger. An anger sweeps over me so suddenly that I feel I might fall down”. | -Character development for Lisette and Xavier  -Expands on the plot of the story  -Trigger to the tension between Xavier and Elijah |

Questions:

1. Why did Xavier shoot the duck after Elijah missed?

When everyone congratulated Elijah for doing all the work , Xavier felt useless even though he was there and did as much as Elijah. After Elijah tried to shoot down the duck and failed, Xavier picked up his rifle and shot down the duck. This caused everyone to go silent and stare at Xavier while he walked away. I believe he did this because he wanted people to know he existed. “Me, I won’t let them forget who I am” (244)

2. Why did Xavier risk getting executed to go back to Saint-Eloi? What surprise does he find there?

Xavier risked getting executed to go back to Saint-Eloi because he wanted to meet Lisette again. He finds Lissette with another man and slowly realizes that she did not love him and she was just a prostitute that was hired by Elijah.

3. How does Elijah killing the three birds show how much he has changed from before the war began?

It shows that he is changing because when he killed the three birds, he did not hesitate and went straight at it. If it was his old self, it would have taken him longer and he would have done it in a more proper manner.